

Matching Green News



'Life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

2nd May 2025

[Matching Green C of E VC Primary School \(matchinggreenprimaryschool.com\)](http://matchinggreenprimaryschool.com)



Matchinggreenceprimary



[Church School Blog](#)

[Week 1](#)

[Week 2](#)

Next week, we are week 1. Please check the new menus!

Collective Worship

In our Picture News this week, the children were reflecting on the value of respect and caring for the community. The discussion how the bin workers in Birmingham have been on strike due to not being treated or paid fairly and how we create a community where everyone has a role and feels valued.



Celebration



Potters
Danny

Nightingale
Kit
Elsie

Darwin
Archie
Ernie

Shakespeare
Orla
Matilda

Weekly update

Our new school menus have been a huge hit with the children, and staff. This week Stan rated Miss Bennett's creamy bacon pasta as an '11 out of 10'. Miss Bennett has been offering tasters of the new menu to children and there have been many happy faces after trying something new.

I am delighted to share with you that this year, Sienna is our May Queen as part of Matching's Monarch and her attendees are Blake, Connie and Darcie. The children wrote wonderful letters demonstrating how they show the values and school and in their wider life and some included how much they have enjoyed and valued their time at Matching Green and the impact it has had on them. Well done to you all.

All classes have air conditioning. Children must not bring in any fans during warm weather, please check that your children are not bringing them in before they come to school. In addition to this, they should not be bringing in any toys or other pieces of equipment from home as they are often upset when things get lost or broken.

Class photos

Class photos have been moved to Wednesday 7th May 2025. Potters and Shakespeare should come dressed in school uniform, with their PE to change in to later on in the day.

May Day

Please remember to take cash to Matching's May Day on Monday 5th May, we are looking forward to seeing many of you there and our May Pole dancers. There are lot of exciting things including a baking competition on the day:

- Children to bake Cookies,
- Ladies to bake a Lemon Drizzle Cake
- Gentlemen to bake Scones

These will be judged on the day so please bring your entries with you!

The day will commence at 11am, and go as follows:

11.30 - 12.00 Arrival of May Monarch and attendants, followed by Maypole Dancing.

12.00 - 14.00 Fun Dog Show

14.00 - 14.30 Singers

14.30 - 15.00 Maypole Dancing

15.00 - 16.30 Singers

16.30 - 16.45 Baking Competition Results

16.45 - Raffle Draw

17.00 - Close

A huge thank you to Jane Brown for supporting the May Pole dancers and to the PTA for giving up their bank holiday to continue to raise funds for the school which have proved pivotal in our school budget this year.

Class updates

Potters – please follow us on Instagram: Potter.Class

Potter Class have been reading Superworm this week, they were writing what they thought Superworm could be! We also have a drama workshop where the children behaved like an animal.

Nightingale – please follow us on Instagram: nightingale.class

This week, the children have enjoyed both the start of their swimming lessons and cricket. They have been learning about seahorses and writing a non-chronological report on the information they have researched.

Darwin - please follow us on Instagram: charlesdarwin.class

What an exciting week for Darwin who had a whole day of science experiments on Wednesday with Mr Loader. The children created 'ears to hear' this week and demonstrated how sound vibrations can travel. They also visited green to test how far sound can travel when popping a balloon.

Gigger	Headliner	Rock Star	Rock Legend	Gone Green
Isaac	Archie	Alice		

The children in Darwin are competing against the teachers over this next week, check back to see the results!

Shakespeare - please follow us on Instagram: Shakespeare.Class

The children have continued to show such resilience and improvement this week as they have had their final SATs practice. We modelled how the week would be to prepare everyone and ensure they have the support they need. We are so proud of the children.

Attendance

Thank you for your continued support with attendance, I am so pleased we have we have achieved a whole school attendance of 95% and look forward to it continuing!

	Whole school	Potters	Nightingale	Darwin	Shakespeare
Year to date	95%	94.8%	93.7%	96.4%	94.7%
This week	97.1%	92.2%	94.4%	99.3%	100%
Persistently absent pupils	9 pupils	1 pupil	5 pupils	0 pupils	3 pupils

Matching's Mini Marathon

What a fantastic event – thank you so much Miss Toon for all your organising! There was a fantastic effort and a fantastic atmosphere, it was wonderful to see the children participate together and support for the whole school

Thank you so much to everyone who has sponsored, we have raised over £600 so far from the children who returned the form today. Please make sure sponsorship forms and money is returned by Tuesday 6th May 2025 so that the children can order their field bins, and now some other equipment!

Potters

- 1st place – Lennie
- 2nd place – Danny
- 3rd place – Florence

Nightingale

- 1st place – Harrison
- 2nd place – Callum
- 3rd place – Buddy

Darwin

- 1st place – Arthur
- 2nd place – Libby
- 3rd place – Luca

Shakespeare

- 1st place – Will
- 2nd place – Sophia
- 3rd place – Blake

Hot weather

Please make sure that children come to school with water only, not juice. They should also have a hat and sun cream already applied.



Please install the SchoolMoney app, it's easy to set up, works on both Android and Apple, and enhances the user experience and supports you with your account.

Our App benefits:

- Easy mobile number login – no need for passwords or emails.
 - Always signed in – no repeated logins for payments.
 - Supports Google Pay and Apple Pay (where available).
- Access to Payments, Bookings, Messages, Noticeboards & Calendars.
- Linked sibling payments, even across different SchoolMoney schools.

Invite your parents to [download the app](#) today!

PE Days

Monday	Potters and Shakespeare
Tuesday	Nightingale
Wednesday	Potters and Shakespeare
Thursday	Nightingale and Darwin
Friday	Darwin

PTA – The Friends Matching Green School

Please make sure you follow the PTA on Instagram: [matchinggreenschoolpta](#)

May Day

Please remember cash for May Day, we cannot wait to see you there!



75 Club

Are you feeling lucky? Would you like a number? please see details below.

The 75 Club raises much needed funds to help support our pupils with extra-curricular trips, visiting theatre productions, as well as helping to fund other resources for the school.

To join the club, we are asking for £2.50 per calendar month per number. The numbers range from 1-75. The draw will take place on the last Thursday of the month and the lucky 3 numbers pulled out will win cash prizes (1st - £30, 2nd - £15 and 3rd - £10) but, the more members of the club, the larger the prize fund will be! During the summer holidays, the prize fund will roll over to create a BIG Rollover to be drawn in September! More Information can be found [here](#).

Easyfundraising

Matching Green C of E Primary School - Harlow are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at: [Easyfundraising - Matching Green C of E Primary School](#)

SEND resources

SEND Roadshows – Summer

The Essex Local Offer SEND Roadshows have now all taken place for the spring term. We welcomed nearly 300 families across the four venues. We also had nearly 50 different services

attend to support everyone who came along. We are now planning the summer term roadshows. These will take place in the mornings on

- Thursday 26 June at Zinc Arts Centre Ongar, West

All information will be updated on [The Essex Local Offer](#) as it is confirmed.

Essex Frontline

Do you need signposting to local health and wellbeing support in Essex? The [Essex Frontline](#) is the perfect tool, it is free to use and covers all of Essex.

ACL community and family learning

Please see the leaflets of the courses available to you.

ACL **FREE!**

Empower Your Child, Ease Their Anxiety

Children and teens today face immense pressure from various sources, including transitions, exams, online, peer pressure or daily life.

Join our FREE sessions designed to help you to understand, and support your child/teen manage their stress, anxiety, or other emotions. Together, we can create a healthier, happier environment for our young, and not-so-young, ones.

Enrol now to make a positive difference in your child's life!
Scan the QR code, Visit our website aclessex.com and type 'CHILD ANXIETY' or 'TEEN ANXIETY' in to the 'Find a course...' box or phone 0345 603 7635

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING **ACL** Essex County Council

ACL

EMPOWER YOUR CHILD TO MANAGE THEIR EMOTIONS

Are you a parent or carer looking to better support your child's emotional well-being? Join our sessions designed to help you understand and nurture your child's emotions.

FREE Online sessions available this May:
Managing Big Emotions, Managing Anger, Self Esteem For Teens, Understanding Children's Anxiety, Understanding Teen Stress, Zones of Regulations.

Take the First Step Today by Signing Up!
Visit aclessex.com and type 'emotions' in the search courses box

FREE

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING **ACL** Essex County Council

ACL **FREE!**

ADHD & ASD: Join Our Support Network!

Are you a parent or carer of a child, or teen, with ADHD or ASD? Gain valuable insights and connect with others who understand your journey. Attend our informative online sessions to learn more about your child's needs and build a supportive community.

Upcoming online sessions this May:

- Understanding ADHD In Children
- Understanding ASD In Children
- Understanding ADHD & ASD In Children
- Understanding ADHD & ASD: Teen Boys

Don't miss out! Register today and be part of a supportive network.

Sign Up!
Visit our website aclessex.com and type 'ASD or ADHD' in to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING **ACL** Essex County Council

Dates	Resources	Referrals
26.06.25 – West Essex SEND Roadshow – Zinc Arts Centre Ongar.	Essex Local Offer Supporting your Neurodivergent Child West Essex Inclusion Project Essex Family Wellbeing SEND IASS Autism Central West Essex Inclusion Project One Plan Process Zones of Regulation pack Essex Frontline	Community Paediatric Service West Essex Community Specialist Services
Recent Letters		
03.09.24 – Welcome Back 14.11.24 – Adverse weather procedures 07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks re Headteacher appointment 07.02.25 – Letter from Neil Banks regarding Governor vacancy 25.02.25 – Potter class birth certificate request 27.02.25 – Extracurricular activities 27.02.25 – Maypole for Key Stage 2		

03.04.25 – Nightingale swimming
23.04.25 – Summer term extracurricular activities
29.04.25 – Parent Governor elections.
02.05.25 - NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme

Summer

13.04.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room 22.04.25 – Children back to school
03.04.25 – Nightingale group 1 swimming start – information shared on 03.04.25.
02.04.25 – Matching Mini Marathon – all children in PE Kits
05.05.25 – May Day
07.05.25 – Class photos
08.05.25 – VE day celebrations in school – Miss Bennett will be creating a special menu!
11.05.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
12.05.25 – 16.05.25 – SATS week
14.05.25 – Nightingale phonics meeting for parents
16.05.25 – PTA Year 6 celebration
21.05.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon
23.05.25 – End of term
26.05.25 – 30.05.24 – Half term
02.06.25 – Non-pupil day
08.06.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
09.06.25 – PTA Father's Day gift room
09.06.25 – Year 6 Leavers Service at Chelmsford Cathedral 1pm – 2.3pm (children only)
09.06.25 – 13.06.25 – Father's Day lunches this week
17.06.25 – Sports Day
20.05.25 – Skip2Bfit day in school - [Skip2bfit - Skipping Workshops in Schools](#)
23.06.25 – 9am Trinity Service at Matching Church, CM17 0QZ. Parents will need to take and return to school.
03.07.25 – transition morning for September 2025
04.07.25 – Independence Day lunch – Shakespeare parents invited to join yus
06.07.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
14.07.25 – Shakespeare end of year performance – invite to Shakespeare parents
15.07.25 - Shakespeare end of year performance – invite to Shakespeare parents
16.07.25 – Whole school trip to Whipnade Zoo – more information to follow.
~~16.07.25 – Learning Celebration Afternoon~~
22.07.25 – 9am Leavers Assembly – invite to Shakespeare parents.
22.07.25 – Last day of term and academic year. School finishes at 1.15pm.
10.08.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room
14.08.25 - Seedlings at Matching Feast Room

Safeguarding

Parking

When picking up or dropping off children at schools, you should do the following:

- Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.
- Do not park on yellow zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them.
- If you decide to park further away, please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or access ways, especially for emergency vehicles.

[Parking outside schools | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](#)

Are you worried about a child?

As a school, we consider safeguarding to be a priority. We welcome parents and carers talking openly to us about their concerns for the safeguarding of children and families. Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child, you can contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via the school office. Please ask to speak to Vicky Childs, Matthew Ball or Jacquie Toon and specify that you have a safeguarding concern.

If you are worried about a child or young person, you can call the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free on 0808 800 5000. If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999. Children can call Childline at any time on 0800 1111.

Road safety

THINK!

THINK! is the UK government's designated road safety campaign, officially established in 2000. It was created to continue and build upon more than 75 years of government-led road safety initiatives, which had previously been managed by the Central Office of Information (COI).

Since its inception, THINK! has become internationally recognised for its iconic and ground-breaking campaigns, challenging dangerous behaviours on Britain's roads. Over the years, its focus has evolved from promoting seat belt use to tackling issues such as excessive speed, drink and drug driving, and the use of mobile phones at the wheel. In the decade following the creation of THINK!, road deaths in the UK fell by 46%.

Find out more at <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources>

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®